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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF RICHMOND COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: GRAND JURY PRESENTMENT FOR THE JANUARY TERM 2017

The Grand Jury having returned the attached general presentment for the January

Term 2016, and the same having been reviewed and accepted by the Court on

March 17, 2017, it is now,

14- A1.

ORDERED that the said presentment shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of

Superior Court for Richmond County, and that it shall be published once in the Augusta

Chronicle, the legal gazette for said County; and

FURTHER ORDERED that the said general presentment shall be posted by the

Director of Information Technology on the Augusta-Richmond County website for public

access through the Internet (World Wide Web).

It is so ORDERED this 17th day of March 2017.

Michael N. Annis

Superior Court Judge

Michel 11 Jun.

Augusta Judicial Circuit

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The Honorable Michael N. Annis

Judge, Superior Court

FROM:

Richmond County Grand Jury

January Term 2017

DATE:

March 17, 2017

RE:

Grand Jury Presentment

We, the members of the Augusta-Richmond County Grand Jury for the January Term 2017, having been duly sworn by the Honorable Michael N. Annis on the 17th day of January 2017, submit our presentment on the 17th day of March, our last day as an official body of the Grand Jury.

To discharge our sworn duties, as prescribed by the laws of the State of Georgia, we met on nine (9) dates during our term and acted upon Bills of Indictments presented to us by the District Attorney's Office.

A Sub-Committee was formed to inspect the Charles B. Webster Detention Center. The applicable report is attached.

The Grand Jury respectfully submits this presentment on the 17th day of March 2017 and requests that it is published.

Parela De Locett	Cherife R. Sagard Cheryle R. Safford, Asst. Foreperson
Pamela Dee Lovett, Foreperson	Cheryle R. Safford, Asst. Foreperson
v v	John H Crawford
Francis Anthony Fleming, III, Secretary	John Henry Crawford
Konston Martin	Delra am Mixel
Kerston Martin	Debra Ann Moody Mikell
Peggy & William	Sharon L. Wilson
Peggy Ann Williams	Sharon Louise Wilson
Michael Thomas, Jr.	Hannie J. Welcher

	A
Alicia Mechelle Jones	Richard Bruce Weiss
Evelyn Scriff Evelyn Scruggs	Iloria M. M. Grotosh Gloria Marie McIntosh
Paul Bryan Jones	Cho Yong Lee
Mattie L. Guy	Debra A. Cowan
James Arnold	Lindsay Rae Keel
Jackery ONeal Wright	Amir Mohammed Abdulaziz
John Terence Smith	Hector Pabon Rivera, Alternate
Gary D. Stewart, Alternate	Constance Burgette, Alternate

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SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE JANUARY 2017 GRAND JURY REPORT ON THE CHARLES B. WEBSTER DETENTION CENTER

On February 28, 2017, a Sub-Committee of three members of the Grand Jury visited the Charles B. Webster Detention Center located at 1941 Phinizy Road. We entered the lobby and passed through a metal detector. The lobby staff was very pleasant and made conversation as they provided visitor passes to us in exchange for our driver's licenses. We found the Detention Center to be very clean and secure with cameras placed approximately every three feet. We did not feel intimidated or fearful during our visit.

After checking in, Captain Reeves introduced himself and escorted us from the lobby to the cafeteria, our first stop on the tour where the Trustees served us lunch. We learned employees are unable to leave the premises for lunch so they either eat in the cafeteria or bring their lunch. The Trustees, dressed in beige, were very respectful while serving a delicious lunch consisting of lasagna, bread and salad and beverage choices of tea and lemonade. The cafeteria was quiet and well organized. Afterwards, we viewed the kitchen where Trustees were mopping, washing and rinsing dishes.

On our tour route, we stopped in the laundry department where several Trustees were working with two guards present. This area was neat and organized.

We also viewed the storage room where all inmate belongings are kept. A very large, neat and well-organized room, it reminded Sub-Committee Members of an oversized dry cleaner.

As we made our way to the different locations, Sub-Committee Members commented on the extremely long length of the hallways with surveillance cameras everywhere. At some point during our tour, we walked down a hallway named the "hall of freedom." We passed through several secure doors to reach the area where females are housed. We learned that inmates who commit non-violent crimes wear solid colors and violent-crime inmates wear stripes. The inmates were in a glass-enclosed, common area and within this area were rooms with doors. The entire area has surveillance by a guard in a tower. The inmates' area looked very clean and well organized.

Inmates seeking medical attention are seen by licensed nurses and other medical personnel. This area was set up in such a way that each inmate can be seen in a private area with guards located in the hallways in direct view of the rooms. The nurses were friendly and seemed to enjoy their work in the Detention Center. From what Sub-Committee Members understood, the Detention Center has plans to add an area, in the future, for dialysis treatment for inmates needing hemodialysis. Inmates are required to pay a \$5.00 co-pay for medical treatment. Dental and medical services are provided to all inmates and nurses are on call 24 hours a day.

We also observed multiple holding cells. A shower was available for those deemed in need. This area was very clean and organized.

Our last stop was the Visitor Center that has the latest technology available. Inmates are allocated three, thirty-minute visits each week through video conferencing. In addition, defense attorneys are able to have private, behind-closed door sessions with their clients. For families who live far away from the Detention Center, video conferencing is a wonderful concept. The family may also watch court proceedings via CCTV. Sometimes, although rare, a judge will come to the Detention Center's courtroom located in the main building on the first floor.

The tour was very educational and enlightening. The inmates' environment was clean, humane and the staff was very professional.

Sub-Committee Members:

Pamela Dee Lovett
Debra Ann Moody Mikeil
Cheryle R. Safford